

REMARKS

Claims 12 and 13 have been amended to include the limitations for the measuring apparatus. Support for the amendments can be found in the specification (page 37, line 25-26, and page 50, line 1-3), for example. No new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendment and reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments and following remarks.

Rejection Under 35 USC §103

Claims 12 and 13 have been rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Inamoto et al (USP 5,352,349) in view of Cozzette et al (USP 5,112, 455)

The Examiner has acknowledged that Inamoto does not disclose a method that omits a reverse voltage step, as evidenced in the allowance of Claims 1-11 and 14-20. However, since Claims 12 and 13 are apparatus claims, the Examiner has taken the position that the structure of Inamoto is capable of skipping this negative voltage step. Accordingly, the Examiner alleges that the apparatus disclosed in Inamoto discloses the apparatus claimed in Claim 12 and 13, except the notification device, which is disclosed in Cozzette.

Claims 12 and 13 have been amended to recite, among other features, software for automatically controlling the setting of the applied bias and a system for detection of the position of the sensor such that the sensor is installed in a position where the sensor is immersed in the buffer solution. With such an arrangement, the film layer collapse, which could occur by applying the bias in a state in which the whole organic film layer is not sufficiently wetted by the storage liquid, can be prevented. (page 38, line 2-3).

Thus, Claims 12 and 13 as amended herein are allowable for at least reasons similar to allowed Claims 1-11 and 14-20. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-11 and 14-20 have been allowed. Applicant acknowledges the allowance of the claims with appreciation.

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CONCLUSION

In the light of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for the allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns which might prevent the prompt allowance of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersign at the telephone number appearing below.

No Disclaimers or Disavowals


Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, the Applicants are not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. The Applicants reserve the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that the Applicants have made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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